

Message Text

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51

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-10 A-01

CPR-02 OPR-02 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15 SY-10 USSS-00 IO-13

PM-07 /130 W

----- 033619

P 071431Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 877

UNCLAS LA PAZ 5478

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, PFOR, OVIP, BL

SUBJ: CIVAIR - BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS AND PRESIDENT

BANZER'S STATE VISIT TO U.S.

REF: A.) LA PAZ 5456; B.) STATE 176925; C.) LA PAZ 3750;

D.) STATE 91086

1. REF A. WAS SENT BEFORE REF B. WAS RECEIVED.

2. GOB'S CIVIL AVIATION UNDER-SECRETARY CASANOVAS CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY THAT HE AND LLOYD AEREO BOLIVIANO (LAB) PRESIDENT BILBAO PLAN TO ARRIVE WASHINGTON SEPT . 12 FOR PRELIMINARY INFORMAL TALKS WITH USDEL, ESPECIALLY CHAIRMAN COBB. AMONG OTHER POINTS, CASANOVAS SAID HE HOPES TO CONVINCE USDEL TO RE-OPEN BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS SEPT 24.

3. COMMENT: TAKING NOTE THAT BILBAO IS TRAVELLING WITH CASANOVAS AND THAT LAB HAS NOT YET ACQUIRED THROUGH PURCHASE OR RENTAL SUBSTITUTE AIRCRAFT TO BE USED WHILE ITS ONE BOEING 727 IS BEING OVERHAULED, (REF C.), WE SUSPECT HELP FROM USG IN THIS AREA WILL BE ONE OF "OTHER POINTS" DISCUSSED.

END COMMENT

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4. IN EMPHASIZING HIS HOPES THAT NEGOTIATIONS REOPEN SEPT. 24, CASANOVAS SAID THAT HIS OWN SCHEDULE, WHICH FOLLOWS, IS TIGHT: SEPT. 12 TO 15, VISIT TO WASHINGTON; SEPT. 24 TO 30, NEGOTIATIONS IN LA PAZ WITH USDEL; OCT. 1. TO 7, ICAO MEETING IN LIMA; OCT. 12, BOLIVIA'S NATIONAL AVIATION HOLIDAY; OCT. 17, NATIONAL AERONAUTICS CONGRESS, TRINIDAD, BOLIVIA; OCT. 26 TO NOV. 1, OFFICIAL TRIP TO MEXICO. IN ADDITION, CASANOVAS SAID THAT, IF WHAT IS REPORTED BELOW WORKS OUT, HE WILL PROBABLY ACCOMPANY PRESIDENT BANZER ON MID-OCTOBER STATE VISIT TO U.S. (REF D.)

5. LITERALLY IN WHISPERS CASANOVAS SAID HE LEAVES BOLIVIA SEPT. TEN FOR DALLAS TO PROPOSE, AT REQUEST OF BANZER, TO BRANIFF INTERNATIONAL THAT IT PROVIDE, GRATIS, AN AIRCRAFT TO TRANSPORT BANZER PARTY TO U.S. AT LEAST TO MIAMI. CASANOVAS SAID HE HAS LONG BEEN FRIENDLY WITH BRANIFF'S MOST SENIOR EXECUTIVES AND HOPES TO CONVINCE THEM THAT THE PUBLICITY AND PROMOTIONAL POSSIBILITIES WOULD MORE THAN COMPENSATE BRANIFF FOR COSTS INVOLVED. CASANOVAS SAID BRANIFF WOULD BE WELCOME TO ALL THE BALLYHOO IT COULD DERIVE.

6. COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT BRANIFF'S AGREEMENT TO THIS ARRANGMENT COULD ONLY HELP ITS IMAGE HERE, AND NO DOUBT WOULD BE HELPFUL IN GETTING THE STATE VISIT OFF TO A GOOD START FROM THE GOB STANDPOINT. THEREFORE, IF BRANIFF SHOULD DECIDE TO COOPERATE IN THIS FASHION, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT WITH U.S. CIVIL AUTHORITIES.

7. IN LIGHT OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY WITH WHICH CASANOVAS RELATED THE ABOVE, EMBASSY HAS NOT RPT NOT INFORMED BRANIFF LA PAZ. TO DIMISH THE SHOCK, WE SUGGEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT ALERT BRANIFF DALLAS ASAP FOR CASANOVAS' OVERTURE.
END COMMENT

8. CASANOVAS SAID HE WILL LEAVE DALLAS SEPT. TWELVE FOR WASHINGTON.

9. EMBASSY RECEIVED DIPLOMATIC NOTE MORNING OF SEPT. SEVEN
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REQUESTING THAT NEGOTIATIONS REOPEN SEPT. 24 AS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY USG.
BREWIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LAPAZ05478
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LA PAZ
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730949/aaaabjxj.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A.) LA PAZ 5456; B.) STATE 176925; C, .) LA PAZ 3750;
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: thigpegh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Sep-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <31-Jan-2002 by thigpegh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR - BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS AND PRESIDENT BANZER'S STATE VISIT TO U.S.
TAGS: ETRN, PFOR, OVIP, BL
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005